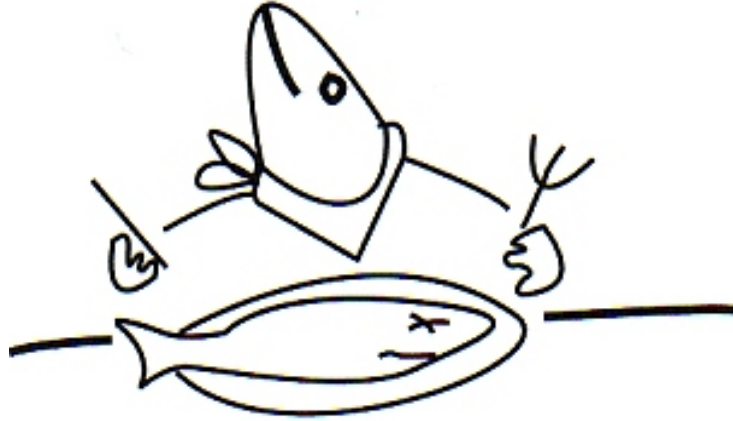


## Don't Salmon Eat Trout?



When conditions are good, there is little competition between trout and young Atlantic salmon, because they live in different parts of a stream.

Salmon prefer open, sunlit riffles. Trout, however, like the shade from overhanging cover, and are often found in pools or shallow runs.

Of all the trout species in New England, only Atlantic salmon and brook trout are native. Because they evolved together, these two species are not usually in direct competition with each other.

Competition is more likely to occur when introduced species occupy the stream. In the late 1800's, brown trout (originally from Europe) and rainbow trout (from the West coast) were stocked into the Connecticut River basin. Because they are not native to this area, these two trout species have a greater chance of competing with Atlantic salmon and brook trout.

However, when a stream gets very low or prey is extremely scarce, all fish will compete to survive. Under these harsh conditions, species does not matter as much as the age and size of the individual. Large salmon will tend to displace trout in riffles, and large trout will tend to displace salmon in pools.

All in all, trout and salmon usually co-exist successfully, without major impacts to the trout fishery or salmon population.